

# AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

## COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be granted permission to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, October 13, for purposes of conducting a joint committee hearing with the Committee on Governmental Affairs, which is scheduled to begin at 10 a.m. The purpose of this oversight hearing is to receive testimony on the Department of Energy's implementation of provisions of the Department of Defense Authorization Act which create the National Nuclear Security Administration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the full Committee on Environment and Public Works be granted permission to conduct a hearing Wednesday, October 13, at 10 a.m., Hearing Room (SD-406), on issues relating to the Clean Water Act, including the following bills:

S. 669, Federal Facilities Clean Water Compliance Act of 1999;

S. 188, Water Conservation and Quality Incentives Act; and

S. 1706, Water Regulation Improvement Act of 1999.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet for a hearing on "Pain Management and Improving End-of-Life Care" during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, October 13, 1999, at 9:30 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, October 13, 1999, at 9:30 a.m., to mark up S. 964, the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Equitable Compensation Act and S. 1508, the Indian Tribal Justice Systems Legal and Technical Assistance Act of 1999 followed by a hearing on S. 1507, the "Native American Alcohol and Substance Abuse Program Consolidation Act of 1999."

The hearing will be held in room 485, Russell Senate Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, the Committee on the Judiciary requests unanimous consent to conduct a closed hearing on Wednesday, October 13, 1999, beginning at 10 a.m., in Room S407, the Capitol.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. without objection, it is so ordered.

## SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE YEAR 2000 TECHNOLOGY PROBLEM

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Special Committee on the Year 2000 Technology Problem be permitted to meet on October 13, 1999, at 9:30 a.m., for the purpose of conducting a hearing.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## SUBCOMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN AFFAIRS

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the subcommittee on European Affairs of the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, October 13, 1999, at 10:15 a.m., to hold a hearing.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS, HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND RECREATION

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on National Parks, Historic Preservation and Recreation of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be granted permission to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, October 13, for purposes of conducting a subcommittee hearing which is scheduled to begin at 2:30 p.m. The purpose of this hearing is to receive testimony on S. 167, a bill to extend the authorization for the Upper Delaware Citizens Advisory Council and to authorize construction and operation of a visitor center for the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River, New York and Pennsylvania; S. 311, a bill to authorize the Disabled Veterans' LIFE Memorial Foundation to establish a memorial in the District of Columbia or its environs, and for other purposes; S. 497, a bill to redesignate Great Kills Part in the Gateway National Recreation Area as "World War II Veterans Park at Great Kill"; H.R. 592, an act to designate a portion of Gateway National Recreation Area as "World War II Veterans Park at Miller Field"; S. 919, a bill to amend the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor Act of 1994 to expand the boundaries of the Corridor; H.R. 1619, an act to amend the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor act of 1994 to expand the boundaries of the Corridor; S. 1296, a bill to designate portions of the lower Delaware Valley River and associated tributaries as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System; S. 1336, a bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to construct and operate a visitor center for the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River on land owned by New York State, and for other purposes; and S. 1569, a bill to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate segments of the Taunton River in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for study for potential addition to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## SUBCOMMITTEE ON SEAPOWERS

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Seapower of the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, October 13, 1999, in open session, to receive testimony on force structure impacts on fleet and strategic lift operation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

### TRIBUTE TO COLONEL RANDALL D. BOOKOUT

• Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, I wish to recognize and pay tribute to Colonel Randall D. Bookout, Chief, Senate Liaison Division, Office of the Chief of Legislative Liaison for the U.S. Army, who will retire on January 1, 2000. Colonel Bookout's career spans 27 years during which he has distinguished himself as a soldier, leader and friend of the United States Senate.

An Ohio native, Colonel Bookout graduated from the United States Military Academy in 1972 and was commissioned as a lieutenant in the Infantry Branch of the U.S. Army. During his career, he has commanded at the platoon through the battalion levels, where he ably trained and led America's soldiers at home and overseas. In Fort Wainwright, Alaska, he commanded the 4th Battalion, 9th Infantry Regiment, "The Manchus." He has also served in command and staff positions at Fort Carson, Colorado, the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York, the Pentagon and overseas in Panama and Korea. Prior to assuming his current duties, he served as the Aide de Camp to the Secretary of the Army.

Since January 1996, Randy Bookout has served with distinction as the Chief of the Army's Senate Liaison Office where he has superbly represented the Chief of Legislative Liaison, the Chief of Staff, Army and the Secretary of the Army, as well as promoting the interests of the soldiers and civilians of the Army. His professionalism, mature judgment, sage advice and interpersonal skills have earned him the respect and confidence of the Members of Congress and Congressional staffers with whom he has worked on a multitude of issues. In over four years on the Hill, Randy Bookout has been a true friend of the U.S. Congress. Serving as the Army's primary point of contact for all Senators, their staffs and Congressional Committees, he has assisted Congress in understanding Army policies, actions, operations and requirements. As a result, he and his staff have been extremely effective in providing prompt, coordinated and factual replies to all inquiries and matters involving Army issues. In addition, he

has provided invaluable assistance to Members and their staffs while planning, coordinating and accompanying Senate delegations traveling worldwide to over sixty countries. His substantive knowledge of the key issues, keen legislative insight, and ability to effectively advise senior members of the Army leadership directly contributed to the successful representation of the Army's interests before Congress.

Throughout his career, Colonel Randy Bookout has demonstrated his profound commitment to our Nation, his selfless service to the Army, a deep concern for soldiers and their families, and a commitment to excellence. Colonel Bookout is a consummate professional whose performance, in over 27 years of service, has personified those traits of courage, competency and integrity that our Nation has come to expect from its professional Army officers.

Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Colonel Bookout for his honorable service to the U.S. Army and the people of the United States. We wish him and his family Godspeed and all the best in the future.●

#### CELEBRATING THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF KAHAL KADOSH BETH ELOHIM

● Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, it is a pleasure for me to recognize today the congregation of Kahal Kadosh Beth Elohim in Charleston, S.C. as it celebrates its 250th anniversary on October 23 1999.

Beth Elohim is the fourth oldest Jewish congregation in the United States. The congregation still worships in a synagogue built in 1840-41 in the Greek Revival style, making it the oldest synagogue in continuous use in the United States. In 1980, the building was designated a National Historic Landmark.

Jewish settlers arrived in Charleston as early as 1695 and by 1749 were numerous enough to organize the present congregation of Beth Elohim, then known as Holy Congregational House of God. These settlers were attracted by South Carolina's civil and religious liberty as well as the economic opportunities the colony offered. In 1792, construction of the synagogue began. The structure stood until being destroyed in the Charleston fire of 1838. The visiting General Marquis de Lafayette observed the original building to be "spacious and elegant."

Beth Elohim also holds the distinction of being the cradle of Reform Judaism in the United States. In 1824, a group of progressive members of the congregation petitioned for a shortened Hebrew ritual, English translation of prayers and a sermon in English. Their petition being denied, they decided to organize The Reformed Society of Israelites. It was a short-lived society, but when the members returned to the congregation at Beth Elohim, their

practices and principles influenced the worship service there and today still form the basis of Reform Judaism. During the construction of the new temple in 1840, an organ was installed, encased in mahogany to complement the building's interior. Said to have 700 pipes and costing \$2,500, the organ provided the first instrumental music used in worship in any synagogue in America.

Many members of K.K. Beth Elohim have been distinguished city, state and national leaders, including early congregant Moses Lindo, who before the Revolution helped to develop the cultivation of indigo. Joseph Levy, veteran of the Cherokee War of 1760-61, was probably the first Jewish military officer in America. Almost two dozen men of Beth Elohim served in the American Revolution, most notably Francis Salvador who, as a delegate to the South Carolina Provincial Congresses of 1775-1776, was one of the first Jews to serve in the American legislature. The blind poet Penina Moise was a famous early superintendent of the Jewish Sunday School at Beth Elohim.

Today, Beth Elohim is led by Rabbi Anthony David Holz and Rabbi Emeritus William A. Rosenthal. The congregation continues to function as a vital part of the Charleston community and deserves many congratulations on reaching this milestone—250 years of rich history.●

#### BILL WOLFF

● Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the efforts of a group of farmers in eastern Montana who pulled together following a tragic accident to help the Family of Bill Wolff harvest their crops.

Sadly, the Wolff family suffered a terrible loss on September 10, when a farming accident claimed Bill's life. In the midst of this tragedy, Bill's neighbor's gathered in an impressive effort to help the Wolff family harvest their grain.

In all more than 20 trucks and 12 combines arrived in Glendive to assist in the harvest. Working simultaneously, the combines were able to cut 135 acres per hour and bring in the harvest for the Wolff family.

Jim Wolff, one of Bill's nephews said, "After experiencing the great teamwork here today, it's going to be difficult to go home and finish my own harvest by myself." In addition, many neighbors mirrored Jim's sentiment and expressed a sense of privilege that they were able to join with the Wolff family during their time of need.

Montanans are truly a special breed of people—always quick to lend a hand to others. It says so much that these people took time away from their own extremely hectic harvest schedules to help the Wolffs, and I commend them for it. Their selflessness serves as an example of us all.

I also extend my most sincere sympathies to the Wolf family. As evidenced by the outpouring of support

from his neighbors. Bill was a man who was loved by a great many people and his loss will be shared by them also.●

#### INSTALLATION OF WILLIAM GORDON

● Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, on Sunday William C. Gordon was installed as the 16th President of the University of New Mexico.

A psychologist by training, Dr. Gordon came to New Mexico by way of Wake Forest University, and Rutgers, where he earned his Ph.D. He taught at the State University of New York before moving to Albuquerque more than twenty years ago. Serving as a Professor of Psychology, then as chairman of the department, he became Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. From there he became the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and then assumed the job of interim president. It was during that period, and after a national search had been conducted, that he himself was named President in March of this year.

Distinguished and well respected, Dr. Gordon has worked diligently throughout his administrative career to improve the university not only for the students and faculty, but for the staff and the wider community. He has sought to improve both the education people are getting, and the way they are getting it. The University of New Mexico is our state's largest institution of higher learning. The potential this represents is not lost on Dr. Gordon, and we look to him for leadership well into the 21st century.●

#### TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT MAJOR GORDON R. TAFT, UNITED STATES ARMY

● Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Sergeant Major Gordon R. "Randy" Taft, United States Army, a native of Decatur, Alabama, who is retiring this month from active duty after twenty-six years of distinguished service to the country. Sergeant Major Taft, who currently serves as the Senior Enlisted Advisor to the Director of the Defense Logistics Agency in Fort Belvoir, Virginia, has devoted his professional life to supporting the personal, administrative, and logistics needs of military men and women assigned around the world in defense of our freedom. His accomplishments are many and his reputation for leading and developing young soldiers is legendary. Randy Taft's selfless contributions to the National Defense will be missed, so as he transitions to new opportunities, I want to say thanks to him on behalf of a grateful Nation.

Sergeant Major Taft's numerous military awards and decorations reflect the tremendous impact he has had on the lives of America's fighting men and women. His decorations include the Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, and the Humanitarian Service